

# DON'T KICK IF FISH ARE HIGH

## The Stormy Rough Weather Costs Fishermen Far More Than It Does You.

Said the Boston Transcript editorially yesterday: "T wharf is a lonely spot today. Those two basins of dock water, which are usually sprouting thickets of masts and spars of the fishing fleet, are all but empty. Yesterday only one vessel brought in her fare, and her decks and rigging, shaggy with incrustations of ice frozen to the direction of the wind, bore mute but eloquent testimony to the buffeting of stormy seas which she had ploughed through offshore. This morning two more vessels arrived, the schooner Conqueror and the otter-trawler Foam, bringing, together, 65,000 pounds of cod and haddock. Where are the other fifty-odd sail of this winter fishing fleet? If lucky, they are huddled in the shelter of the little ports of the Cape shore all the way from Tusket to Canso; if not, they are pitching and tossing somewhere offshore in these northwest gales, glazed over with the ice of flying spray, and waiting for weather moderate enough for fishing. It is known that some of the fleet have made Shelburne harbor, more or less battered, with a sail burst to ribbons, or a fore-boom broken. For the past fortnight, and longer, the weather out in the Bay has been little but a succession of gales. It has blown furiously on the fishing banks, even when the air has been quiet on shore. The steamer from Yarmouth wallowed in yesterday after a tempestuous night of it crossing the bay, and minus the port side of her bridge; the revenue cutters have been busy at rescue duty on the Shoals; and when the weather abates, we may be sure that other craft will come creeping in with tales to tell. February off this coast is no season for weaklings or the faint-hearted.

"All of which is by way of explaining why a shortage in the fish market is a very different affair from a shortage of meat, or of coal or of eggs. The fellows who garner this harvest for us are themselves the chief sufferers. Every day they cannot fish means money out of their own pockets; their shares of the vessel's expenses keep on, whatever the weather, and be assured that they will fish as soon as the sea moderates so that a dory has an even chance of remaining on top of it—if not before.

"Cod and haddock, the two staples of the winter fishery, always slightly higher in price as the February gales roughen the banks, are about two cents a pound higher than the average in consequence of this long weather-embargo of the fleet. The arrivals yesterday and today will hardly more than tease the may of our local demand; but a few days of quieter water will quickly relieve the shortage. Meanwhile, if obliged to pay slightly more for your Friday fish, by all means do so with a good grace. Be sure of this: for once, in the way of a food shortage, you are not being 'robbed.' For every extra two cents you pay, the men of the fishing fleets have lost ten times two by their enforced idleness. And if that is not a consideration, ask yourself how you would enjoy changing places with them out yonder in their ice-covered schooners, tossing on the wintry sea."

# NO ARRIVALS AND NO FISH

## Market Boats Went Out and Came Back—Gill Netters Stayed in.

But little of interest has happened along the water front the past 24 hours. In fact, it has been about the quietest here during the past two weeks that has been experienced for many months, but three off shores having arrived here since a week ago last Friday.

Outside of the gill netters there has been but little doing. The weather has been so bad outside that many of the smaller boats have hauled up at their wharves until it moderates again. Yesterday was so rough that none of the boats lifted at all. Steamers Naomi Bruce and Anna T. which arrived late Sunday evening, took out their fish late yesterday, and shipped them to Boston, where the owners will profit by the prices that are being paid this morning.

The fleet of market boats that went out to set yesterday afternoon put back to port on account of the snow storm.

### Today's Arrivals and Receipts.

The arrivals and receipts in detail are:

Sch. Mary DeCosta, shore.  
Sch. Edith Silveria, shore.  
Sch. Jorgina, shore.  
Sch. Jeanette, shore.  
Sch. Leonora Silveria, shore.  
Sch. Harriett, shore.  
Sch. Annie and Jennie, shore.  
Sch. Adeline, shore.  
Str. Anna T., gill netting, 2000 lbs. fresh fish.  
Str. Naomi Bruce, gill netting, 3000 lbs. fresh fish.

### TODAY'S FISH MARKET.

#### Salt Fish.

Handline Georges codfish, large, \$5.50 per cwt.; medium, \$4.62 1-2, snappers, \$3.25.  
Eastern deck handline codfish, large, \$5.25; medium, \$4.50.  
Eastern halibut codfish, large \$4.50; mediums, \$3.75, snappers, \$3.  
Georges halibut codfish, large, \$4.50; mediums, \$4.  
Cusk, large, \$2.25; mediums, \$1.75; snappers, \$1.25.  
Pollock, \$1.50.  
Hake, \$1.50.  
Haddock, \$1.50.  
Newfoundland salt herring, \$3.25 per bbl.  
Newfoundland pickled herring, \$5 per bbl.

#### Fresh Fish.

Haddock, \$1.10 per cwt.  
Eastern cod, large, \$2.10; medium, \$1.75; snappers, 75c.  
Western cod, large, \$2.15; mediums, \$1.80; snappers, 75c.  
All codfish not gilled 10c per 100 pounds less than the above.  
Hake, \$1.15.  
Cusk, large, \$1.30; mediums, \$1; snappers, 50c.  
Dressed pollock, 80c; round, 90c.  
Bank halibut, 24 1-2c per lb. for white; 13c for gray.  
Newfoundland frozen herring, \$2.75 per cwt.

# THE FOAM WAS BADLY ICED UP

When the steam trawler Foam arrived at T wharf yesterday from Georges shore it took the "salts" along the waterfront several minutes to decide whether the visitor was a vessel or a fragment of an iceberg. The reporters perceived that the camera would far outclass the typewriter in showing what a severe northwest gale, coupled with a temperature hovering around zero, could do in the way of disguising an ordinarily well known craft.

Throughout the 200-mile trip from Georges, the Foam fought it out with the gale. Loaded with fish, the little vessel made a good target for wind and waves. Officers and men suffered severely, but their vessel came through with only minor damage.

During the night, when the temperature dropped rapidly, ice formed on the forward deck, coating the rigging to the thickness of several inches. The pilot house amidstships was so incrustated that the men at the helm were forced to lower the windows to see ahead.

# Feb. 12. HALIBUT AT 47 CTS. POUND

## But Unfortunately the Steam Trawler Surf Had Only 16 Pounds.

But little relief has come to the T wharf fish situation during the past 24 hours, the total receipts since yesterday being 90,000 pounds.

The arrivals are schs. Gladys and Nellie, 54,000 pounds; Frances S. Grueby, 16,000 pounds; Tecumseh, 9500 pounds; steamer Surf, 10,400 pounds.

On account of the scarcity and big Lenten demand dealers were willing to pay good prices. Haddock sold at \$6.40 to \$10 a hundred pounds wholesale; large cod, \$8 to \$10; market cod, \$6 to \$9; hake, \$6 to \$8; pollock, \$6.50; and cusk, \$5.

A small lot of halibut, 16 pounds in all brought in by the steamer Surf, sold at 47 cents a pound, the highest price of the winter and one of the biggest prices on record.

### Boston Arrivals.

The fares and prices in detail are:

Str. Surf, 10,000 haddock, 400 cod, 16 halibut.  
Sch. Gladys and Nellie, 30,000 haddock, 13,000 cod, 7000 hake, 2000 cusk, 2000 pollock.  
Sch. Frances S. Grueby 15,000 haddock, 400 cod, 300 hake, 300 pollock.  
Sch. Tecumseh, 3500 haddock, 800 cod, 300 hake, 200 pollock.  
Haddock \$6.40 to \$10; per cwt.; large cod, \$8 to \$10; market cod, \$6 to \$9; hake, \$6 to \$8; pollock, \$6.50; cusk, \$5; halibut, 47 cents.

# GILL NETTER LOST RUDDER

The tug Eveleth went to Portsmouth this morning to tow back the gill netting steamer Philomena, which put in here yesterday with her rudder gone. Upon the arrival of the steamer here she will go on Rocky Neck railways.

### Portland Fishing Notes.

A brand new sloop, the Georgie C. Bowdoin, from Cundy's Harbor, attracted a lot of attention as she was tied up at Central wharf Monday afternoon. She is owned by W. E. Hunt and Ernest Darling, both of Cundy's Harbor, and was built by Wilbur A. Morse of Friendship. She was completed by her builder last Thursday and this is her first trip. She is of the half knockabout type, is 46 1-2 feet long with a 15-foot beam. She is built for the fishing business and her auxiliary power is supplied by a 16-horsepower Lathrop gasoline engine. She is trim and tidy in appearance and looks as though she is both speedy and seaworthy.

# LAST WEEK AT FULTON MARKET

There would have been plenty of business in the salt-water fish market during last week, had the supply of green fish been more plentiful and prices lower, says the Fishing Gazette. As it was, only a fair amount of business was transacted, as prices were high and, in many cases, frozen fish had to be used in filling orders.

With the Lenten season here, the wholesale fish dealers were pleased to find that frost was in the air. They had been hoping for it for some time past, for there is frozen fish to be sold, and up to last Monday weather conditions were not such as to favor handling any large quantities. Now with the mercury below freezing point, retail dealers are asking for frozen fish, as they can sell it cheaper than the fresh article.

There is always a good demand for frozen herring during the Lenten season, and this year dealers are well supplied. Both Cape Shore and Newfoundland stock are being offered at prices to attract buyers.

The supply of green fish has been very light. Take codfish, for instance. The Fulton Fish Market smacks landed less than 10,000 fish, while earlier in the winter the arrivals totalled 50,000 fish. Under the circumstances it is easy to understand why codfish was high in price when the East was sending practically nothing to this market and the local catch for the week was much below the daily catch on other occasions.

Market cod sold at 5 to 8c during the week, while steak cod brought 9 to 14c. The high prices prevailed during the latter part of the week.

There was no haddock in the market on Thursday or Friday. During the remainder of the week the price was 5 to 6c per pound.

Halibut continues to be very scarce, and high prices are prevailing. No fish are being received from the east, and only two cars arrived from the west. The quotation during the week was 16 to 17c per pound.

Hake sold at 5 to 6c per pound up to Wednesday. There was none to be had on Thursday or Friday.

Pollock sold at 5c per pound up to Wednesday. There was none to be had after that day.

Very small-sized pollock, resembling snapper blues, sold at \$6 per barrel.

# AS THE FISHING GAZETTE SEES IT

Recently committees from the Board of Trade, the Master Mariners' and the Fish Skinners' Union of Gloucester were given 25 minutes on the floor before the House Ways and Means committee to explain why fish should not be placed on the free list. The arguments put forth were to the effect that several thousand laboring men would suffer financially, as those engaged in similar work in the Maritime Provinces only received about half the wages paid in this country. The Gloucester representatives overlook the fact that their city at one time dominated the fisheries in this country, and also that there are other interests to be considered by the House committee before making a recommendation to Congress. The fishing interests of Gloucester are not all in favor of retaining a duty on fish. There are those who would welcome the admittance of green fish free of duty, to be manufactured in this country.—Fishing Gazette.

# Feb. 12.

### Big Fish Consignment.

A steamer cleared from St. John's, N. F., last week for Atlanta, with 8500 four quintal drums of dry cured codfish, valued at a quarter of a million dollars. This is the largest consignment of fish ever sent out from this ancient colony.

### Was Known Here.

Hartley Lord, the senior member and founder of the firm of H. & G. W. Lord, the netting manufacturers, died last November at Kennebunk, Me., aged 88. He voted the day before he died. The other member of the firm, George W. Lord, died in June last.

# Feb. 12.

### In at Sandy Point.

The following crafts were at Sandy Point, N. S., last week: Schs. Aspinet, Mildred Robinson, Juno, Diana, Laverna, Georgia, Stiletto, Paragon, Fannie A. Smith, Elsie, Esperanto, Arethusa, Clintonia, James W. Parker, Mccanam, Francis J. O'Hara, Jr., Gov. Foss, Onato, Regina, Premier, Lizzie M. Stanley, Terra Nova and Romance.

### Fisheries Advisory Board.

The Canadian Minister of Marine and Fisheries has appointed a Fisheries Advisory Board. The Board consists of 13 members and will be divided into three committees—one for the Prairie Provinces, one for the Atlantic Provinces and one for British Columbia.

### Pacific Coast Halibut.

A recent fresh fish market report from Seattle says: Increased receipts of halibut weakened quotations 2 1-2 cents during the week, the price now being 12 cents per pound.

# Feb. 11.

### Fine Stock For Sch. Conqueror.

As a result of the scarcity of fresh fish and high prices that prevailed yesterday at T wharf, Boston, sch. Conqueror, Capt. Robertson Giffin realized the magnificent stock of \$2700, from which the crew shared \$62 to a man clear.